

was a cop for the Bristol Police Department. He has served as secretary of the Bristol Boys and Girls Club and as treasurer of the Metro Chambers of Commerce organization, which is composed of the seven largest chambers in Connecticut. He was also chairman of the Chambers Benefit Leadership Council, which pools together businesses from Connecticut and western Massachusetts for the purpose of purchasing health benefits.

Given the deep commitment John has shown for Bristol, it is no surprise that he intends to remain in the Mum City. I couldn't be more thrilled that such a devoted civil leader will still be part of the community. I am sure he will find ways to remain involved.

I extend to John Leone my sincerest thanks and heartfelt best wishes on a well deserved retirement. Connecticut is a better place because of him.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW E. PARSONS

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, today I pay tribute to Special Agent Matthew E. Parsons of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, NCIS, who is retiring from employment with the Federal Government on December 20, 2008. Special Agent Parsons is retiring after 36 years in law enforcement, with the last 27 years of Federal Government service with NCIS. Of special note and atypical of his peers, he volunteered and recently completed a high risk assignment as the Director of the Strategic Counterintelligence Directorate, Multi-National Force-Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq.

During the course of Special Agent Parsons' career in government service, he rose from a GS-7 to a GS-15 Special Agent. In his final position with NCIS, he was assigned as the Assistant Director for Financial Management & Planning at NCIS Headquarters, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC.

Special Agent Parsons, Federal law enforcement career began August 1981 with the Naval Investigative Service—the precursor of today's NCIS. His first assignment was to Norfolk, VA, at the time when the John Walker, Jr., spy ring was uncovered. During the early stages of the investigation, Special Agent Parsons was assigned as the NIS case agent. In August 1985, he transferred to overseas duty at Yokosuka, Japan, where he continued working in the foreign counterintelligence arena.

In 1988, Special Agent Parsons was transferred to Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD. While conducting an investigation into a sensitive breach of security, he developed the ground work for future NCIS computer investigations. Special Agent Parsons utilized innovative methods to hone his computer investigative skills which ultimately led to the development of agency capabilities to conduct investigations of hacking, intrusions, and sabotage of U.S. Government computer systems and networks.

In December 1993, due to his outstanding efforts in computer crime investigations he was transferred to NCIS Headquarters to establish a computer crimes department for the agency. Special Agent Parsons and his team, reaching nearly 50 members, developed agency and Department of Navy strategies and capabilities which included immediate reporting requirements upon the slightest indication of a technological or information intrusion. In addition, he and his team worked closely with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Armed Forces Center for Child Protection in the forefront of keeping our Nation's future generation safe from exploitation through child pornography and online predators.

In October 2000, Special Agent Parsons was promoted and transferred to Okinawa, Japan as the Resident Agent-in-Charge. During his tenure in Okinawa he led an office primarily responsible to support U.S. Marine Corps forces and operations throughout the East Asia and Pacific region. He and his team developed a fly-away team concept capable of providing on demand support to operating U.S. Naval forces. This expeditionary team was tested in early October 2002 when a bomb exploded outside a popular restaurant in Zamboanga, Philippines, killing two U.S. military members and injuring 20 others. Within 14 hours of the event, the NCIS Okinawa fly-away team was at the scene providing invaluable criminal and forensic investigative support.

In May 2003, Special Agent Parsons was promoted Special Agent-in-Charge of the NCIS Far East Field Office in Yokosuka, Japan. It was during this assignment that he developed a neighbor-to-neighbor program which forged a bond with the local Japanese community and served as an early warning and indicator of potential criminal or terrorist threats to U.S. military personnel living within the community.

In January 2007, Special Agent Parsons was transferred to NCIS Headquarters where he became the assistant director for financial management and planning. Special Agent Parsons oversaw the agency's strategic planning process, developed financial plans and budget initiatives, and conducted evaluations of office implementation plans and performances.

Demonstrating the extent of his dedication to duty and exceptional character, Special Agent Parsons volunteered for a high risk assignment as the Director of the Multi-National Force-Iraq Strategic Counterintelligence Directorate, SCID, Baghdad, Iraq. Serving in Iraq from December 29, 2007 until June 24, 2008, he led a 109-member joint-service team in a complete strategic refocus of the mission resulting in increased collaboration among assets, increased standardization in reporting, and ultimately better support to the war fighter.

As a testament to his distinguished career, Special Agent Parsons received

several awards including the Meritorious Civilian Services Award, the Department of Defense Global War on Terrorism Civilian Service Medal and the NCIS Expeditionary Medal. Special Agent Parsons also received numerous accolades from senior Navy leadership and published six articles regarding computer crime investigations in professional periodicals.

The Navy, the State of Maryland, and the Nation are lucky to have had the service of such a great Special Agent. He will be sorely missed. I wish him and his family all the best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. Fair winds and following seas!●

#### CONGRATULATING WILLIAM YUAN

● Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate a young man who has not only achieved beyond his years but has also advanced the state of the art of solar power technology. William Yuan of Beaverton, OR, is a seventh grader at Meadow Park Middle School whose achievements are both jaw-dropping and important.

Recently, William earned a \$25,000 scholarship from the Davidson Institute and became a Davidson Fellow for his work in renewable energy research. William's project, "A Highly-Efficient 3-Dimensional Nanotube Solar Cell for Visible and UV Light," featured a novel solar panel that enables light absorption from visible to ultraviolet light. The carbon nanotubes William designed can overcome the barriers of electron movement, doubling the light-electricity conversion efficiency. His optimized design provides 500 times more light absorption than commercially available solar cells and nine times more than the cutting-edge, three-dimensional solar cell.

Given the current energy crisis, everyone must pitch in to reduce our dependence on oil consumption. In Congress and in the private sector, we are working to facilitate advancements in renewable energies. However, we cannot be successful without brilliant minds like William's.

Winning the Davidson scholarship is far from William's only achievement. This year alone, William won second place at the Northwest Science Expo, Best Engineering Project at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and second place at the Oregon Chess for Success State Tournament. The list goes on. Last year, William also received a junior black belt pum certification from the World Taekwondo Headquarters in Seoul, Korea. He has also received a number of awards from various Intel Oregon competitions and First Place in Oregon in the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth Talent Search in both quantitative and verbal sections.

At 12 years old, William is only just getting started. He intends to continue his research in renewable energy and eventually select a major for his college study toward a Ph.D. degree. John F. Kennedy once said:

Our nation's first great leaders were also our first great scholars.

I look forward to watching William progress as a scholar and a leader.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RANDY PAPÉ

● Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, one of the great privileges of public life is meeting people who make a difference through the sheer strength of their personalities and their enthusiasm for wanting to make the world a better place. One of those people was Randy Papé. I rise today to recognize what Randy meant to my State and to me personally.

On Thursday, November 6, Randy died of a heart attack at the all-too-young age of 58. News accounts of his passing referred to Randy as a "Eugene businessman" who built his family's small implement business into a regional giant employing 2,000 people in seven States.

But Randy was much more than that. He was vintage Oregonian—relentless, effective, and tenacious. To Randy, no project was too big, no public service too small.

He was also my friend, and I will miss him every day.

My most enduring image is of a smiling Randy reacting to some idea that would improve the lives of Oregonians—actually, of everybody—by pumping his arm and saying: "We've got to do it. We've got to do it." The sound of his voice will always be with me, urging me on to embrace the things he believed in with the same enthusiasm.

Randy lived in Eugene all his life, but gave himself to the entire State. Growing his grandfather's business from a local equipment sales operation to a seven-State conglomerate was just a part of what he accomplished. During his life he helped raise nearly \$600 million for buildings at his alma mater, the University of Oregon. His tenure on the Oregon Transportation Commission resulted in a \$1.3 billion, 10-year program of bridge repair and replacement that remade Interstate 5, the heart of Oregon's transportation system. As head of the United Way of Lane County's fundraising campaign, he set a \$1 million goal that everyone thought was impossible and then achieved it. He served on the board of The Nature Conservancy of Oregon, the Oregon Trail Council of Boy Scouts of America, as well as other nonprofit organizations such as the Oregon Business Council Steering Committee.

Randy had two other great passions that can never be overlooked. There was his love for Susie, his wife of 34 years, and their three wonderful and successful sons, Ryan, Christian and Jordan. Then there was his unflagging devotion to the University of Oregon Ducks football team. In fact, Randy and Susie met at a U of O football game in 1971.

This is only a partial list of what Randy helped achieve for my State, but

it is a window into who Randy Papé was and what he was capable of doing. His wife described him best: "He was the most positive person, the most upbeat. He was a joy to live with."

In 1997, Randy was diagnosed with a severe form of cancer and wasn't expected to live that long. But in true Randy Papé fashion, he fought on, never losing that trademark enthusiasm and determination. In the end, it was not the cancer that took him from us. It was something that, ironically, he had more of than anyone I have ever known in his heart.

I know that Randy would take great satisfaction in cheating the cancer that tried to kill him. As his oldest son, Ryan, said: "I know he's looking down from heaven right now saying, 'Guys, I beat the cancer.'"

I would say: "Randy, of course you did."

Randy Papé was a great Oregonian who will always have a place in my heart and in the hearts of the thousands of people who knew him and were touched by his unselfishness and dedication to doing the right thing.●

● Mr. SMITH. Madam President, the late Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said:

Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are individuals who say, "This is my community and it is my responsibility to make it better."

The community of Eugene and the entire State of Oregon lost a true hero 2 weeks ago with the untimely passing of Randy Papé. I have had the privilege of dealing with countless community leaders during my 12 years in the U.S. Senate, but I can't think of anyone who was more dedicated to making his community, State, and Nation better than was Randy.

As the chief executive officer of The Pape Group, a 2,000-employee, seven-State conglomerate of industrial equipment, aviation and recycling businesses, Randy was one of Oregon's most respected and admired corporate leaders.

Guiding his business empire was more than a full-time job, yet Randy found time to give his talent and treasure to an endless variety of worthy causes. There was no bigger booster of his alma mater, the University of Oregon, than Randy. There was no better cheerleader and fundraiser for the United Way than Randy. As a member of the Oregon Transportation Commission, there was no better advocate for Oregon's roads and highways than Randy. There was no more committed member of the Nature Conservancy of Oregon, and the Oregon Trail Council of Boy Scouts of America than Randy. I had no wiser counselor than Randy.

And above all, there was no one who loved and cherished his family more than Randy.

Randy's wonderful wife, Susie, was at his side for 34 years. She knew him better than anyone else, and she captured him better than anyone else, when she said:

He was the most positive person, the most upbeat. He was a joy to live with.

Randy was justifiably very proud of his three sons, Ryan, Christian, and Jordan, all of whom chose to follow their dad into the family business, and all of whom inherited his values of honesty, decency, and a dedication to making their community better.

The Greek poet Sophocles, once wrote:

One must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been." For his family, his friends, his community, his State, and our Nation, the evening of Randy's life came much, much too soon. But let us take solace in the fact that in that evening, Randy Papé could look back at a life filled with the love of family; a life filled with accomplishment; a life filled with making a positive difference; a life filled with the heroism that came from making his community better, and say: The day has indeed been splendid. ●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE DURING RECESS

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 3, 2008, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 442. Concurrent resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to correct the enrollment of the bill S. 3001.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3641. An act to authorize funding for the National Crime Victim Law Institute to provide support for victims of crime under Crime Victims Legal Assistance Programs as a part of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 105. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House to Representatives to correct the enrollment of H.R. 6063.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5159) to establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, headed by the Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services, to provide for the effective management and administration of the Capitol Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 7222) to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 440) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 3, 2008,